

Correspondence and Postal Reports.

OOTENDING EARNESTLY—A BABEL OF RELIGIONS.

NICKERSON, KAN., February 26, '94.

Bro. Harrison and the readers of the EVANGELIST:—I have been so busy that I have not had the time to give you an article for the paper. I have done more hard preaching and traveled more miles in the last six weeks than I ever have done in the same length of time before. I am here now in a meeting and this is the hardest place I ever struck to reach people. I came here from Ottawa the 15th, and have given them the whole truth, and tried to make it just as wide as I could. Some are hit but they do not seem to yield and we don't know whether they will or not; but if they don't it will not be for the lack of knowing the truth. This has been the first meeting where I have had so many different denominations represented. There are Catholics, Baptists, Congregationalists, Presbyterians, Christians or Campbellites, Lutherans Methodists, First-day Advents, Seventh-day Baptists and Christians scientist. We had a good chance to tell them what we believe and why we believe it.

Last night the room did not hold all. Some are convinced but will not come. We have preached the doctrine with all our power and will leave the result with God, asking him to bless the seed sown. We will close soon unless some accept the word and ways of the Lord. The church is weak here and not in very good working order as they have had some trouble and have not had regular preaching for some time. Some have gone with other denominations and that has been discouraging. Since we came here the Methodists have started a meeting conducted by two ladies, one to sing the other to preach. The Baptists also have commenced. This place claims 1800 or 2000 inhabitants and only three or four hundred of that number are church members. There are the secret lodges here also, not much pure vital piety. This is a railroad town sure. Bro. J. W. Beer who has his home here will take up the work and we hope much good will be done, and that our brethren will soon be able to build a house to worship in. I have taken the care of the church near Unionville, Iowa, and go there once a month. Will try to write more in the near future.

H. S. ENSLOW.

713 Oak St., Ottawa, Kan.

ANOTHER PLAN FOR PAYING PUBLISHING HOUSE DEBT.

GOSHEN, IND., Feb. 26, '94.

Dear EVANGELIST:—We are not having regular services at this place now; Bro. Yoder of Milford began a revival meeting, but after preaching nearly a week, had to quit on ac-

count of bad weather. Besides it is uphill work to increase our membership very fast, when we consider that there are no less than a half dozen other churches within four miles, and out of nine families living along our road, not missing any there are members of eight denominations. So you see people here are not all of "one mind," and not having a church building, nor a regular organized church is quite a hindrance to our cause. Bros. Menaugh and Sala have been preaching for us till of late. Expect them back in a week or two, when no doubt they will be greeted by a large audience.

I have just read in the EVANGELIST that the Brethren church has a membership of 10,000; and just then a thought came to my mind. A membership of 10,000, and can't pay our honest debts? (the Publishing house debt) and some are willing to give \$10 each. Well, I have struck a new plan. Who would hesitate to give a dime? Let us see, 10,000 members at ten cents each, that figures too high, we will say 5,000 who can afford, and are willing to give a dime, figure it out, quite a sum of money.

Now, Bro. Harrison, as soon as you say "Amen" to this plan, I will pledge a dime for each member in our little flock. I will collect it, and send it all at one time to you. Will we do it? I am quite sure Bro. Menaugh will do the same with his flock. Especially since he quit smoking. I believe Bro. Menaugh when he says, "the battle is fierce," for I know he used to be a hard smoker. Can't we play "April Fool" on Bro. Holsinger? Appoint some one in your church to hold a dime collection at your next meeting; see that you average ten cents for each member; send the money to the editor of the EVANGELIST, and by the 1st of April the editor will send it to Bro. Holsinger. But in order to succeed with this plan, we must all respond, not be drones, and by so doing we will be astonished at the amount raised. Now, Bro. Editor, tell us what to do, and how to proceed, and then let us all obey promptly. Then when this debt is paid let us be more prompt, and pay as we go. By so doing we can preserve the credit of the church, and it will be more honor to the church than high church steeples, grand display, much membership etc.

Why don't we have more sermons in the EVANGELIST? What has become of Bros. Gnagy, Bashor, I. D. Bowman, the Moomaws and a host of others? are they snow-bound? Bro. I. D. Bowman, let us have a sermon from you in the EVANGELIST, where not only hundreds but thousands can hear.

Inclosed find \$1.50 for EVANGELIST another year, my subscription I think will soon expire and I don't want to miss any.

Yours Fraternally,

H. J. SCHROCK.

As coals are to burning coals, and wood to fire; so is a contentious man to kindle strife.

PONY CREEK CHURCH DEDICATION.

Last Sunday was a memorable day in the history of the Brethren church at Pony Creek. The day was fine and though the roads were not the best, a large congregation assembled and the newly remodeled church was well filled with at least 400 people, young and old.

The outside of the church has not undergone much of a change, but the interior has been transformed to such an extent that nothing of its former self is at all recognizable. The house, the dimensions of which are 40 by 60 feet, has been partitioned into two main audience rooms, which can be thrown into one by the raising of sliding doors, and besides these there are two smaller rooms on either side of the pulpit and baptistery that are intended for dressing rooms and yet a smaller room near the entrance, which is by a large double door near the south east corner.

The windows have been boxed, the seats and wood work nicely painted, the latter having a red wood finish and the walls and ceiling are handsomely papered. Stained glass windows are placed on either side of the arched pulpit reflecting light and beauty.

The carpenter work was done by the Wharton Bros., of Morrill, assisted by P. S. Keim, Geo. Keim and B. R. Gerhart. The handsome job of paper hanging was done by W. S. Showalter.

All this work including bills for lumber and other material, although a part was generously donated by those who furnished it cost the sum of eight hundred dollars. There was also an old debt hanging over the church for years and it was proposed to wipe this out upon this occasion. In order to clear the church from all debt it was necessary to raise over five hundred dollars on the day of dedication. Rev. McFaden, who had preached the dedicatory sermon, appealed to the generosity of the congregation assisted by Rev. Yoder, and before the going down of the sun the entire amount was raised.

The members of the congregation expressed themselves very grateful to the outside help given them on this occasion. Thanks are especially due to the Rev. McAfferty, of the United Brethren church, who dismissed his own congregation and gave the influence of his presence and assistance upon this occasion.—Morrill (Kan.) News.

SCATTERED THOUGHTS.

EVEREST, KAN., Feb. 26, 1894.

My first thought is, why is Brother Bashor's speech at the World's Fair Parliament put in a pamphlet to be sold instead of being put in the EVANGELIST so all can read it? There are a great many that are not able to pay for the EVANGELIST alone without paying extra for his speech. And isn't the paper for the good of the

church, to enlighten the members, or do you put the best under a bushel and say, "you can't have it unless you pay for it?" Now let us have it in the paper, and a couple of good sermons each week in the paper, so we isolated members can have a little bread of life to profit thereby. My next thought is, why is it that rich churches that have from one to five ministers. Send off to get a minister to dedicate a church or hold a series of meetings instead of paying a minister to go and preach to isolated members, or help a poor worn-out minister? The commission says, "go teach all nations, but some of the mission boards, say, "go where there is a church that you can get your expenses, and keep them a live, so they will not dwindle away and go to other churches, but let the isolated and the world go." Now this is too much the case in a great many places.

Pray for us and all isolated members,
Yours.

A. CRISAMORE.

ABOUT THE FATHER'S BUSINESS.

BURLINGTON, IND., Feb. 26, 1894.

DEAR EVANGELIST:—Yesterday the brethren and sisters had a meeting at Salem Church. I wanted to be with them and give a Bible reading but was busy all day looking after the wants of the sick. They had a good meeting, and appointed another for next Sunday evening. I want to see an Endeavor Class organized here. I will be a benefit to all, will give employment to the dear young brethren and sisters, help to develop them into usefulness. I rejoice to know that so many have been gathered in from the Sunday School. Then there are fathers and mothers that came in that have not had much religious training and all should have something to do, so there will not be much chance for the evil one.

DR. GORDON.

BROTHER N. M. PALMER APPRECIATED.

SWARTZ HOCKING CO., O., Feb. 20 1894

DEAR EDITOR of the EVANGELIST:—Last Sabbath was our regular preaching day. Brother N. M. Palmer filled his place in the pulpit and preached a soul inspiring sermon. There were two made the good confession—a young man and wife of refined society. They are an honor to the church and society. The Sister belonged to the German Baptist but on account of not complying with A. M. she was expelled some time ago. Come, all ye who will free yourselves from man made law and take God's law. The Brethren here are rejoicing over their revival and the end has not come yet. Who would not rejoice over such a meeting. The brethren will stand by their minister as he deserves great credit for what he is doing in this church. This church here is trying to build up. Pray for us that that we may be able no fulfill God's command.

Yours in love,

JOHN KISTLER.